



Reference: R26396075

FOI 376/15/16 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

1. I refer to the application by [REDACTED] under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act), for access to:

“Any documents prepared by the Secretary of the Chiefs of Service Committee (COSC) that summarise the matters agreed by "Agendum 50 of 13", "Strategies for implementing recommendations from the Review into the Treatment of Women in the ADF..."”.

Excluding personal email addresses, signatures, PMKeys numbers and mobile telephone numbers, contained in documents that fall within the scope of the FOI request. In addition, exclude duplicates of documents and documents sent to and from me.

FOI decision maker

2. I am the accredited officer pursuant to section 23 of the FOI Act to make a decision on this FOI request.

Documents identified

3. I identified one document as matching the description of the request.

Decision

4. I have decided to release the document in full.

Material taken into account

5. In making my decision, I had regard to:
- a. the terms of the request;
 - b. the content of the identified document in issue;
 - c. relevant provisions in the FOI Act;
 - d. the Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act (the Guidelines); and
 - e. advice from Office of the Chief of Defence Force.

Reasons for decision

Section 22 – Edited copies with exempt or irrelevant matter deleted

6. Section 22 of the FOI Act provides that if an agency or Minister decides to:

(i) refuse access to an exempt document; or

(ii) that to give access to a document would disclose information that would reasonably be regarded as irrelevant to the request for access;

and it is reasonably practicable to prepare a copy of the document modified by deletions, the agency or Minister must give the applicant access to the edited copy.

7. Considering all of the above, I decided that it was reasonably practicable to remove the irrelevant material, specifically signatures as stated in the scope of your request and release the document in that form.

Jan Andrews
Accredited Decision Maker
Associate Secretary Group

29 June 2016